

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 04221 241134Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----241310Z 020049 /47
R 241035Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1836

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 4221

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LY, US, AU
SUBJECT: KREISKY ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. AFTER VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S DEPARTURE FROM VIENNA MAY 20, CHANCELLOR KREISKY ASKED THE CHARGE TO CALL. KREISKY SAID HE WISHED TO PASS ON TO THE VICE PRESIDENT FURTHER INFORMATION PURSUANT TO THEIR DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. KREISKY SAID HE HAD HAD DISCUSSION SOME TIME AGO WITH THE LIBYAN AMBASSADOR HERE, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH THE LATTER EXPRESSED HOPE FOR IMPROVEMENT IN US-LIBYAN RELATIONS. OTHERWISE, THE AMBASSADOR HAD SAID, LIBYA WOULD BE COMPELLED TO TURN MORE TOWARD THE SOVIETS. KREISKY REMARKED TO THE CHARGE THAT THIS WAS AN OLD THEME AND HE HAD NOT ATTRIBUTED ANY IMPORTANCE TO IT. HE HAD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO HEAR IF HE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS FOREIGN OFFICE ON THE MATTER. KREISKY COMMENTED THAT HE HAD THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE THE END OF IT.

3. KREISKY SAID HE WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE LIBYAN AMBASSADOR RETURNED TO THE SUBJECT IN A CALL THE AFTERNOON ON MAY 20. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD KREISKY THAT
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HE HAD REPORTED THEIR EARLIER CONVERSATION TO HIS GOVERNMENT AND HAD NOW RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. HE WAS, ACCORINGLY, OFFICIALLY CONVEYING TO KREISKY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE CHANCELLOR COULD SERVE IN ANY WAY TO BRING ABOUT AN IMPROVEMENT IN US-LIBYAN RELATIONS. IN RESPONSE TO THE CHARGE'S QUESTION, KREISKY SAID THE AMBASSADOR HAD NOT GONE

INTO ANY SPECIFICS. HE HAD MADE NO REQUESTS OTHER THAN THAT KREISKY MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE IF OCCASION AROSE.

4. KREISKY SAID HE WAS STILL NOT INCLINED TO ATTRIBUTE IMPORTANCE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S INITIATIVE BUT WISHED MERELY TO PASS IT ON TO THE VICE PRESIDENT AS BEING OF POSSIBLE INTEREST AS WE DEAL WITH THE WHOLE RANGE OF MIDDLE EAST ISSUES. MEEHAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENNA04221
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770184-1117
Format: TEL
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770522/aaaaasrr.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 853fd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2384587
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KREISKY ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, LY, US, AU, XF, (KREISKY, BRUNO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/853fd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009